Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A hollow fiber membrane submodule comprising:
a hollow fiber membrane element having a feed fluid inlet,
a feed fluid distribution pipe in communication with the feed fluid inlet, and an assembly of hollow fiber membranes having selective permeability and disposed around the feed fluid distribution pipe, wherein both ends of the hollow fiber membrane assembly are separately fixed with resin, and at least one end of the hollow fiber membrane assembly is subsequently cut to hollow out the hollow fiber membranes; ~~and~~

permeated fluid collectors for collecting permeated fluid flowing from the opening or openings of the hollow fiber membranes~~,~~ ; and

~~the permeated fluid collectors being secured to the hollow fiber membrane element with removable snaps in a non-continuous manner~~

removable snaps arranged non-continuously around the outer peripheral surface of the permeated fluid collector and an end of the hollow fiber membrane element, securing the permeated fluid collector to the end of the hollow fiber membrane element in which a projection on one end of a snap is engaged in a depression provided in the end of the hollow fiber membrane element, and a projection on the other end of the snap is engaged in a depression provided in the permeated fluid collector.

2. (Original) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1,
wherein the hollow fiber membranes having selective permeability are arranged in a crisscross fashion around the feed fluid distribution pipe in communication with the feed fluid inlet.

3. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the hollow fiber membranes are reverse osmosis membranes.

4. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the snaps are made of resin.

5. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the snaps have an impact strength of not less than 2.5 kg•cm/cm, a bending elasticity coefficient of 10,000 to 200,000 kg/cm^2, and a tensile strength of not less than 400 kg/cm^2.

6. (Previously Presented) A hollow fiber membrane module comprising two or more of the hollow fiber membrane submodules according to Claim 1, in a pressure vessel.